

# ABSTRACT

1 An apparatus for washing items comprises a generally  
2 cylindrical mesh housing; a first wall and a second wall,  
3 said first wall and said second wall being positioned  
4 within said housing so as to define first, second and  
5 third compartments in said housing; an opening in each of  
6 said compartments through which an item to be washed can  
7 be placed in or removed from a respective compartment;  
8 and a closure device for closing said compartments to  
9 retain said items in said compartments when said items  
10 are being washed. The first wall and said second wall  
11 may each comprise an endless pocket and a stiffener  
12 disposed within said pocket. A polymer loop may be used  
13 to stiffen said first wall and said second wall. A method  
14 of using the apparatus to wash various items, including  
15 those of delicate fabrics.